

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A back light device for liquid crystal displays,
comprising:

- 5 a fluorescent lamp;
 an inverter to supply an alternating current or a pulse
to the fluorescent lamp;
 a reflection member to reflect light radiated from the
fluorescent lamp;
10 a diffusion member to diffuse the light;
 a frame to house the fluorescent lamp, the inverter, the
reflection member and the diffusion member therein;
 an external electrode provided at a first end of the
fluorescent lamp;
15 an internal electrode provided at a second end of the
fluorescent lamp; and
 an extension electrode connected to the internal
electrode, so that a plurality of fluorescent lamps are
operated by the single inverter.

20

2. The back light device according to claim 1, further
comprising:

- a holding terminal provided at a predetermined position
in the frame to hold each of the first and second ends of the
25 fluorescent lamp, and connect the external electrode to the

extension electrode.